

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Gregory et al.	)	Group Art Unit:
			)	UNKNOWN
Appl. No.	:	UNKNOWN	)	
			)	
Reissue of			)	
Patent No.	:	5,597,200	)	
			)	
Filed	:	HEREWITH	)	
			)	
For	:	<b>VARIABLE</b>	)	
		<b>TEMPERATURE SEAT</b>	)	
			)	
Examiner	:	UNKNOWN	)	

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

**In the specification:**

At COL. 1 of the issued patent (No. 5,597,200), after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

Related Applications: The present application is a continuation of prior application serial no. 09/239,054, filed January 27, 1999.

At COL. 4, line 18 of the issued patent, after the explanation of Fig. 5, please insert the following paragraph:

Fig. 5a is a sectional view of another embodiment of the air plenum strengthening method;

Appl. No. : UNKNOWN  
Filed : HERewith

Please amend the paragraph beginning at COL. 5, line 28 of the issued patent as follows:

An alternative embodiment to prevent potential crushing, is that the walls of the channels, manifold, and subchannels formed by the automotive seat cushion foam 30 can be augmented. As seen in FIG. 5a, the [The] walls 27 are augmented with, for example, stiffeners or liners 41 placed cooperatively with the walls 27 or affixed to the walls 27, as desired, in order to provide additional stiffness to the walls 27. Also, stiffeners can be placed within the cavities of the channels, manifold, and subchannels to resist crushing. The stiffeners 41 would preferably have suitable holes or paths 43 for the air to pass through, such that there is not a substantial resistance to air flow."

**In the claims:**

Please cancel Claim 36 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-21, 28, 30-33, 35 and 37 as follows:

1. (Amended) Apparatus for selectively varying the environmental temperature of a vehicle seat comprising:

a support member in the seat formed from a resilient material, wherein the support member includes:

an integral air flow channel that extends through the support member from a bottom surface to a top surface of the support member, the air flow channel having an inlet at the bottom surface of the support member for receiving temperature conditioned air therein, and further having an outlet at the top surface of the support member for dispensing temperature conditioned air therefrom;

**[and]**

at least one air subchannel that is molded or formed in the support member and extends adjacent the [integral with and extending along a] top surface of the support member, wherein the air subchannel is connected with the outlet of the air flow channel; and

an air-impermeable barrier on a side of the air subchannel opposite the top surface of the support member;

a porous member which substantially covers the top surface area of the support member, the porous member having an interface with the air subchannel; and